

WHEN EB CLIMBED THE GREASY POLE

A Fourth of July Poem

BY JAMES ARTHUR BAGDON

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"The Fourth's the day I like the best," said Uncle Billy Brown.
"An' that's the day I calculate to allers come to town.
I like to see the boys parade, I like to hear the band,
I like to hear the speaker tell about our gloryus land."

An' hear the Declaration read, an' eat a quart er two
O' peanuts while they're praisin' up the old red, white an' blue!
I like the ole three legged race an' racin' in the sack;
I like to hear the anvils boom an' hear the crackers crack.
They's allers lots o' fun the Fourth, but ef I live to say
A hundred year o' age, my boy, I won't fergit the day
They held the racin, jumpin' ganties on 'Dan McCormick's knoll
An' Ebenezer Saunders tried to climb the greasy pole.

"Now, Eb was quite a feller, an' he liked to git up high;
Was allers climbin' suthin, an' I think he'd reached the sky
Ef he could only got there by jes' shinnin' up a tree
Er climbin' up a steeple that was tall ez tall could be;
Was allers mountin' suthin—steeples, hills an' white ash trees
He'd monkey-shine the tallest with the mos' surprisin' ease
Was allers braggin' 'bout it; said ez sure ez he was born
That some day he'd shin up a hill they called the Mattie Horn.
An' onct Bucyrus Miller's dander got a trifle het
By Eb's eternal blowin', an' he turned around an' bet
The chanct he had o' winnin' ez his wife Almira Cole
That Ebenezer Saunders couldn't climb the greasy pole."

"Now, Eb was tall an' plocky, an' he took that bet ez quick
Ez trout will take a hoppergrass that's tumbled in the crick.
He shucked his coat an' vest to onct an' dropped 'em in the lot,
An' round that pole he tied hisself, a wigglin' human knot.

The pole was orful greasy, but he'd climb a ways an' stick
An' then he'd slip a cog er two an' drop so swift an' slick
That you could fairly hear him whiz an' almost feel the breeze
Ez he shot down an' banged his chin upon his bony knees.
But he was game an' tried ag'in, an' then he tried some more.
He squeezed the wood an' clawed the wood; he panted an' he swore,
An' when he'd wore the grease all off he shinned up to'rds the goal,
An' Ebenezer Saunders, sir, had climbed the greasy pole!

"He'd won the bet; but, sad to say, Almira saw the trick
An' mitted Eb an' spoke o' him ez 'Monkey on a Stick.'
'I ain't no organ grinder, Eb,' she said the day he popped,
An' from that day all greasy poles was from Eb's program dropped."

A YOUNG HEIRESS TO A THRONE.

The charming little maiden whose portrait appears in the accompanying illustration is the Princess Elizabeth of Hesse, who has been declared by special law heiress to her father's throne. She is a grandniece of King Edward VII and great-granddaughter of the late Queen Victoria on both her father's and her mother's side. Her father is the Grand Duke Ernest Louis of Hesse, son of the late Princess Alice and brother of the czarina of Russia. Her mother is the Princess Victoria Melita, daughter of the late Grand Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha (Duke of Edinburgh) and his wife, born Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrovna of Russia. The little Princess Elizabeth Marie Alice Victoria, who bears the names of her great-grandmother and two grandmothers and unites in herself the two royal families of England and Russia, was born March 11, 1895.



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A GLOVE WORN BY CHARLES I.
In the accompanying illustration is shown a historic relic, one of the gloves worn by the ill-fated monarch, Charles I of England, on the eve of his execution. It does not differ materially from the gauntlet of today, the interest attaching to it being its association with one whom some still call the Martyr King and rever as one of the saints of the earth. The decorations on the wrist portion are of pure gold thread.



TWO SISTERS WHO OWN AND EDIT A NEWSPAPER.



LOUISE BOYNTON.



GEORGIE I. BOYNTON.

The latest item concerning the gradual emancipation of woman from the thralldom in which she is said to have been held for centuries by the sterner sex comes from Perth Amboy, N. J., where two young ladies, whose portraits appear herewith, own and edit a newspaper. It was immediately after their graduation from Vassar college that the Misses Louise and Georgie Boynton took hold of the Perth Amboy Weekly Republican and not only made a daily of it, but a grand success as well. They overcame all opposition and drove out all competitors, writing their own editorials and soliciting advertisements in propria persona. One is editor and the other business manager, although they use the well worn editorial "we," as, for example, in a recent issue of their charming paper: "We are not amateurs. We know the newspaper business thoroughly. We don't spend our time chewing caramels, but in writing editorials and in selling advertising space. Want any?" So many of their fellow citizens who advertise have concluded that they do want their "space" and so many more like the paper for itself that the venture of these bright young ladies has become a pronounced success and is attracting attention.

THE HIGHEST PRICED ENGRAVING IN THE WORLD.



What is said to have been a record price for an engraving was recently obtained for the original of this illustration. It represents Sir Joshua Reynolds' celebrated picture, "Mrs. Carnarvon," and though not by any means the most famous of his paintings, this engraving by J. R. Smith was sold at the unprecedented price of \$5,000. During Reynolds' lifetime his paintings sold anywhere from \$250 to \$1,500 each, but now that he has been dead a hundred years and more a hundred times the latter price has been paid for other paintings—as, for instance, on the occasion of the purchase of the famous "Gainsborough" by Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan not long ago. It is hardly likely, however, that the Reynolds paintings will continue to increase in value in the same ratio, as the pigments he used are showing signs of deterioration and cannot be warranted to endure like those of the great Italian, Dutch and Venetian artists.

LATEST PORTRAIT OF RUDYARD KIPLING.



The latest portrait of Rudyard Kipling, herewith presented, from a recent painting, is considered a faithful delineation of the talented author's features, showing particularly his hard headed aggressiveness and obstinacy. Not content with making more money by his pen than almost any of his brother writers, Kipling is peculiarly insistent upon receiving all that is, may be or ever can be his due and has sued several American publishers for alleged infringement of copyrights. Born in 1865, Kipling is now 36 years of age, and as his books were first published in 1888 and he has written industriously ever since he has probably amassed quite a fortune. Kipling is not great so far as physical proportions go, he has never been accused of being generous or of loving Americans overmuch, but he has won a reputation decidedly unique.

THE KAISER'S BIGGEST SOLDIER.

The biggest soldier in the German army is said to be the man whose portrait appears in the accompanying illustration and whose name is Oscar



Taplich. In private life he is a locksmith and is only 21 years old, having been born at Königsberg in 1880. He is 6 feet 8 inches in height and belongs to the Gardes du Corps regiment.

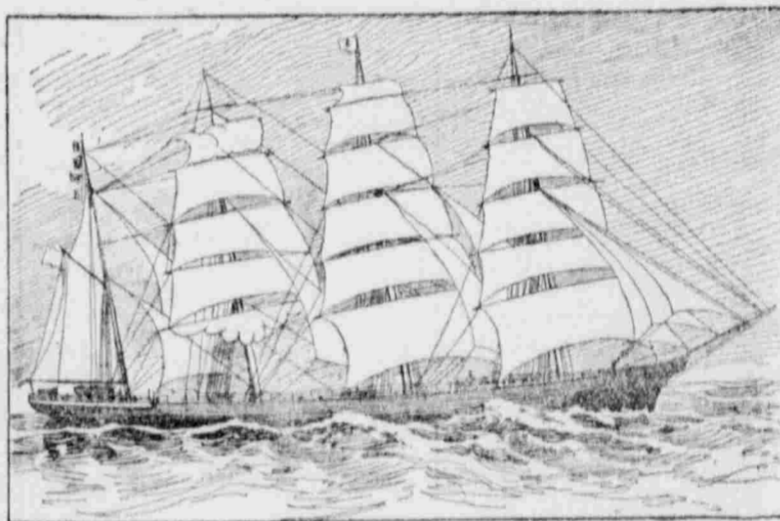
M. BERTHELOT, THE GREAT SYNTHETIC CHEMIST.



M. Pierre Eugene Marcellin Berthelot, in honoring whom with titles France has honored herself, is one of the greatest chemists of the age. The accompanying portrait, which shows him in his laboratory at the College of France, well depicts the noble head and youthful bearing of this French scientist, who is now in his seventy-fourth year and can look back upon a lifetime of labor which has been, though indirectly, devoted to ameliorating the condition of his fellow men.

Though M. Berthelot has wasted some years in politics, having held several high positions under the French government, such as minister of public instruction and minister of foreign affairs, yet he has now returned to his first love, chemistry, to which he intends to devote the remainder of his life. It is in synthetic chemistry, or the production of substances from their known constituent elements, that he has excelled, his discoveries in that direction having placed him in the front rank.

FASTEST SQUARE RIGGED SHIP IN THE WORLD.



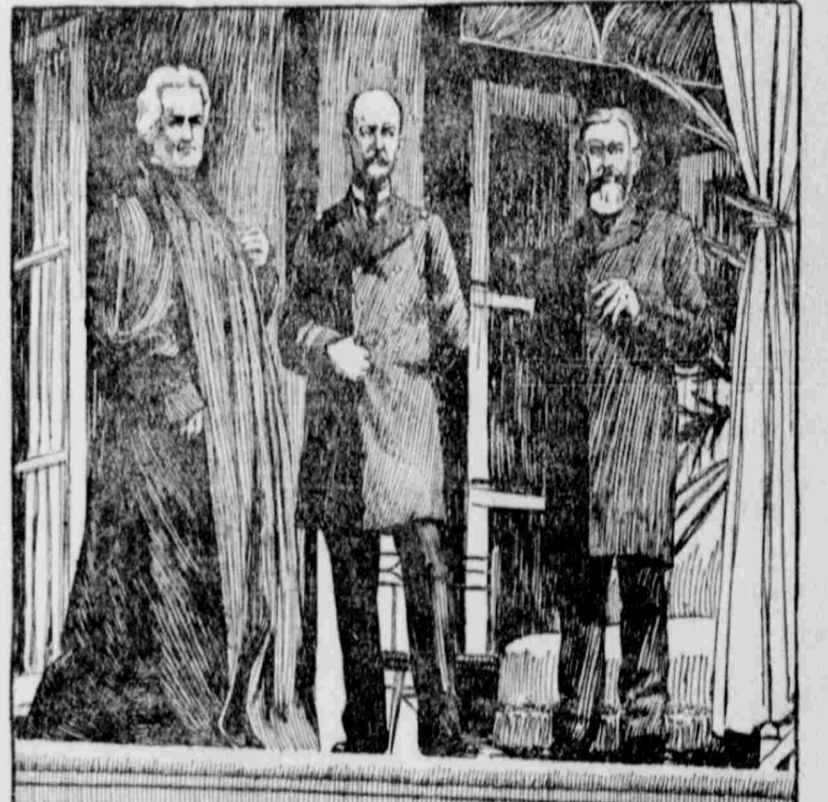
It is claimed that the vessel presented in the accompanying illustration is the fastest "square rigger" in the world. She is the Muskoka, a steel ship 316 feet long and of 3,250 gross tonnage. Sailing from Astoria, Or., for Queens-town, Ireland, she covered the distance—18,000 miles—in 101 days and 20 hours. She had a previous record of 85 days from Cardiff, Wales, to Hongkong, while her sister ship, the Owens, holds the record from England to Australia.

A REMARKABLE PHOTOGRAPH.

The original of the illustration given in this connection is considered a most remarkable photograph both by professionals and amateurs, for several reasons. In the first place, it was taken at a distance of only three feet from this royal eagle, which, with its strong beak and talons, could have destroyed the venture-some photograph without a moment's warning if its wings had not been clipped. In the second place, the definition is superb, the webs of the feathers and the flash of the eagle's eye being beautifully reproduced.

There are 236 places of public entertainment in London, with a combined seating capacity for 400,000 people.

A QUEEN AND TWO KINGS AT A SINGLE SNAP SHOT.



It does not seem as though it could have happened by chance, for the royal subjects of the snap shot presented in the accompanying illustration have an air of preparedness about them that savors of the somewhat expected. At the same time this photograph may be considered as exceptional. It is not often that an artist is afforded an opportunity to photograph two kings and a queen at one "sitting," even when they are standing up. This trio was caught on the shore of the Adriatic, where the king of Roumania and his queen had gone for recreation, and were by chance met by the king of Greece, who entertained them on board his royal yacht and afterward accompanied them to the villa in which they were stopping. The king of Greece is in uniform and occupies the center, the king of Roumania is in muffs, or citizen's clothes, while the queen of Roumania wears the queer costume which she sometimes affects in private.

THE MOST FAMOUS BRIDGE IN EUROPE.



Of course it is a stock subject for artists and travelers to paint and photograph, write about and rave about, but the famous Rialto of Venice, built more than 400 years ago and shown in the accompanying illustration, holds the palm for beauty. The curve of its single marble arch has been pronounced unequalled—the most graceful thing in the world—and owes its attraction and strength to its extreme simplicity.

FROM ACROSS THE WATERS.

St. Petersburg's cables charge half the fare for women that they do for men.

Bananas with purple leaves and seedless fruit have been introduced into British conservatories.

Among the victims of the French associations bill is the monastery of the Grande Chartreuse, where the green

and yellow chartreuse liqueurs are made.

Zurich, in Switzerland, seems to have more clubs in proportion to its population than any other city. In 1892 the number was 534, but this had increased to 771 in 1901.

George McDermott, the last of the "lion comiques," died recently in Lon-

don. It was he who introduced the song, "We Don't Want to Fight, but by Jingo, If We Do."

Although the value of the late Marquis of Bute's property exceeded \$25,000,000, the amount on which inheritance duty could be levied was only \$4,400,000. The tax was \$192,000.

Several hitherto unknown poems by King James I have been discovered in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. They

will be edited for the Clarendon Press by Mr. Rait, a Scotchman.

France probably has the smallest conscription record. Emile Mayot of Cunel, in the canton of Montfaucon, measures 2 feet 9 1/2 inches in his stocking feet and weighs 42 pounds. He was accepted.

German army officers have grown sensitive. The Berlin guards' regiment have tabooed the weekly Die Woche account of a tale by Ernst Wichern

which some of the officers' misdeeds are related.

Dr. Charles Host of Sarawak, after many experiments, has formed the theory that the disease beriberi arises in tropical regions from the consumption of moldy rice. Dr. Stangeways Pigg of Cambridge has expounded the theory in England.

Dr. A. Donaldson Smith of Philadelphia received the Patron's medal of the

Royal Geographical society for his journey to Lake Rudolf, south of Abyssinia.

At the same meeting the Duke of the Abruzzi received the Founder's gold medal for his ascent of Mount St. Elias and for his attainment of the farthest north in his polar expedition.

Frau Cosima Wagner has protested against the proposed Prussian copyright law limiting an author's rights in musical compositions to 20 years after

his death. She wants the copyright of her husband's compositions to be extended to 50 years.

Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, grandson of the prince regent, now has a son, the first great-grandson of Prince Luitpold. Prince Rupprecht, according to the strict order of descent, should be Prince of Wales, as his mother is the legitimist Queen Mary IV of Great Britain.